

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration.

Claims 21-25, 27-30 and 43 were previously pending in this application.

By this amendment, Applicant is canceling claims 24 and 30 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 21, 23, 25, 27 and 29 have been amended.

New claim 44 has been added.

Support for the claims amendments and the newly added claim can be found throughout the specification and in the claims as originally filed.

As a result, claims 21-23, 25, 27-29, 43 and 44 are pending for examination with claims 21, 25 and 27 being independent claims.

No new matter has been added.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 21-25, 27-30 and 43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5981714 to Cheng et al., in view of U.S. Patent Nos. 5955270 to Radford et al., 5719269 to Schwartz et al., 6329209 to Wagner et al., 5750172 to Meade et al. and Nuijens et al. JBC, 1997, 272(13):8802-7.

Applicant respectfully disagrees. The methods of the rejected claims are, in fact, quite different from the methods of the art cited by the Examiner. The methods of the claims require either the co-expression of the target polypeptide and multivalent binding polypeptide in a product of a non-human transgenic mammal or the step of contacting a product containing the target polypeptide of a first non-human transgenic mammal (the product being, for example, a fluid of the mammal) with a product containing the multivalent binding polypeptide of a second non-human transgenic mammal. Because the multivalent binding polypeptide is produced in the same or another product, and does not need to be separately purified before its use, the methods of the claims are not only different from the methods of the art cited by the Examiner but are also much more efficient and less costly to perform.

The art cited by the Examiner does not teach or make obvious at least the limitations stated above. The arguments supplied by the Examiner also do not sufficiently establish a

motivation to combine the references to obtain the methods of the claims or an expectation of success, if *arguendo*, all of the limitations of the claims could be somehow found in the teachings of the references.

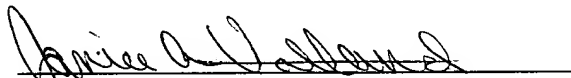
Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below if this communication does not place the case in condition for allowance.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

Respectfully submitted,



Janice A. Vatland, Ph.D.

Registration No.: 52,318

WOLF, GREENFIELD & SACKS, P.C.

Federal Reserve Plaza

600 Atlantic Avenue

Boston, Massachusetts 02210-2206

(617) 646-8000

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